

09 April

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 41

 Let's hear your story

1. Have you ever had to explain to a friend or family member that Jesus was resurrected from death?
2. True or false; Jesus' resurrection was prophesied in the Old Testament? **(True, see Ps.16:10 and Isaiah 53).**
3. True or false; Jesus said that He would rise from death? **(True, Mark 8:31; 9:31 and 10:33 – 34).**
4. True or false; Jesus' body was stolen? **(False, see 1 Corinthians 15).**

 Let's go deeper

5. Was the location of Jesus' tomb well known? **(Yes, see Isaiah 53 and John 19:38 – 42).**
6. Was Jesus' tomb found by women? **(Yes, see John 20:1; Luke 4:10 and Matthew 28:1).**
7. Did Jesus' family worship Him as God after He was resurrected? **(Yes, see Acts 1:14; book of James and Jude).**
8. How did one of Jesus' enemies; Saul who became Paul, suddenly belief in Jesus? **(The resurrected Jesus appeared to him in Acts 9).**

 Let's apply this

9. Jesus is alive and changing lives to this day:

One of the most powerful ways to testify about the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the testimony of a believer; who I was before Jesus rescued me, how I met Jesus, and how Jesus has changed my life.

- Thank Jesus for revealing Himself alive to you.
- Share your testimony with friends and family as a witness that Jesus Christ is alive today

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 41 (Resurrection Sunday).

Read: John 20:1 – 31 and 1 Corinthians 15

The central concept of Christianity is the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is the hope of our resurrection.

20 Reasons to believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

1. Jesus' resurrection was prophesied in the Old Testaments; (see Ps.16:10; Is.53).
2. Jesus told us that He would rise from death; (see Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33 – 34).
3. Jesus died; (see John 19:33 – 36).
4. The location of Jesus' tomb was well known; (see Isaiah 53; John 19:38 – 42).
5. Jesus' empty tomb was found by women; (see John 20:1; Luke 24:10; Matt.28:1).
6. Jesus' disciples were transformed from fearful to fearless men; (Acts 4:33).
7. Jesus appeared to crowds upwards of 500 people over 40days; (Acts 1; 1 Cor.15).
8. Jesus' followers remained loyal to Him; (see Acts 5:40 – 41; Fox book of martyrs).
9. Jesus' tomb was not decorated; (the tombs of all other dead religious leaders are)
10. Jesus' followers worshipped Him as God; (see 1 Corinthians 15:4 – 8).
11. Jesus' family worshiped Him as God; (see Acts 1:14); book of James and Jude).
12. Jesus' followers changed the sabbath from Saturday to Sunday.
13. Jesus followers use communion & baptism in remembrance of Him; (Acts 2:42).
14. Jesus' enemy Saul, who later became Paul was converted; (see Acts 7 – 9).
15. Jesus' resurrection was recorded shortly after it happened; (Gospel of Mark).
16. Jesus' resurrection is unique in history; (no other religious leader claim this).
17. Jesus' resurrection is verified by history; (historians Josephus; Tacitus).
18. Jesus' church has stood the test of time; (Christianity is the largest movement).
19. Jesus is alive and changing lives to this day; (this is the testimony of a believer).
20. Jesus' resurrection defies any alternate explanation; (Historian Thomas Arnold, Christian life, its hopes, its fears, and its close, 6th ed. (London: T. Fellows, 1859).

What are the primary objections to Jesus' resurrection?

1. The swoon theory; Jesus didn't die on the cross, He passed out.
2. Some would say that Jesus had a spiritual resurrection not a physical resurrection.
3. Some say everybody went to the wrong tomb.
4. Some would say that Jesus' body was stolen.
5. Some say Jesus had a body double.
6. Some say Jesus' resurrection was a mass hallucination.